Stormy weather across the UK

12 September 2011 - As forecast, a deep area of low pressure which contains post-tropical storm Katia is bringing gales and heavy rain to parts of the UK.

All parts of the UK will see gusty conditions through the start of the week, with the highest wind speeds of 75 to 80 miles per hour expected over northern and western regions of the country.

Chief Forecaster at the Met Office, Bob Wilderspin said: "The strongest winds will affect parts of Northern Ireland, the Central Lowlands and Southern Scotland and parts of Northern England.

"Whilst the winds will be at their strongest through Monday afternoon and evening, gusty conditions will continue in these areas on Tuesday - so we advise everyone to stay up to date with the very latest forecast and warnings."

The high winds in western coastal areas will bring large waves and spray overtopping sea defences.

Heavy rain may also bring localised flooding to parts of western Scotland.

The winds are expected to ease during the middle of the week with mostly fine and much calmer weather returning for a short time.

Met Office Chief Forecaster Bob Wilderspin explains the latest forecast for the storm affecting the UK. (PDF, 79 kB)

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Latest forecast for storm affecting the UK

Bob Wilderspin – Chief Forecaster

The Atlantic storm that developed out of hurricane Katia is now passing fairly close to the north of Scotland. This animated loop shows the satellite picture and the radar from this morning. You can see the swirl of cloud around the deep low as it moves across Scotland and moves into the west of Scotland. The strongest winds are in its southern flank and the heavy rain is starting to accumulate now over parts of western Scotland. This graphic shows the area of heaviest winds, gusts up to 80mphs expected through the central belt of Scotland and other parts of northern Ireland and northern England. The yellow area denotes quite an extensive area of really strong gusts as well which will have an impact on travel for instance. The low itself will gradually move away, across Scotland and towards southern Scandinavia, but we will keep closely packed isobars across northern England through much of tonight and through most of tomorrow, so any clearing up operation following today's problems with trees down for instance will be fairly slow to get going and also the rain does accumulate steadily over parts of western Scotland so there will be potentially some flooding issues for parts of western Scotland by the time we get to tomorrow afternoon. Quite a dynamic situation so please keep an eye on the Met Office website for any updates as events unfold.